

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 24-28 and amend claims 29-32. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS:

1-23. (Canceled).

24-28. (Canceled).

29. (Currently Amended): An in vitro method for identifying a compound capable of modulating apoptosis, the method comprising:

a) combining a test compound with a sample comprising a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:

- i) a polypeptide which is encoded by a nucleic acid molecule comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:4; and
- ii) a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3;

under conditions suitable for the test compound to modulate the glycerophosphoryl phosphodiester phosphodiesterase activity of the polypeptide;

b) assaying the ability of the test compound to modulate the glycerophosphoryl phosphodiester phosphodiesterase activity of the polypeptide;

c) combining the compound selected in part b) with [[a]] cells expressing the polypeptide; and

d) determining the effect of the compound on apoptosis of the cells;

thereby identifying a compound capable of modulating apoptosis.

30. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 29, wherein the sample comprises the polypeptide or [[a]] cells expressing the polypeptide.

31. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 30, wherein the cells are [[is a]] brain cells or [[a]] neurons.

32. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 29, wherein the cells are [[is a]] brain cells or [[a]] neurons.

Practitioner's Docket No. MPI00-557P1RM

33. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 29, wherein the compound is a small molecule, a peptide, or an antibody.